REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed on October 31, 2006. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 6-11, 13-17, 20, 23, and 26-30 are pending in the case.

Request for Interview

The Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner after the Examiner has had an opportunity to consider this Amendment, but before the issuance of the next Office Action. The Applicant may be reached at 617-951-3067.

Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. §102

At paragraphs 4-10 of the Office Action, claims 6-11, 13-17, 20, 23, and 26-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Wesinger, Jr. et al., US Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0011304, hereinafter Wesinger.

The present invention, as set forth in representative claim 6, comprises in part:

6. A method for creating and maintaining a plurality of virtual servers within a server, the method comprising the steps of:
    partitioning resources of the server to establish an instance of each virtual server by allocating units of storage and network addresses of network interfaces of the server to each instance of the virtual server, and sharing an operating system and a file system of the server among all of the virtual servers;
    enabling controlled access to the resources using logical boundary checks and security interpretations of those resources within the server by comparing configuration information of a unit of storage requested by a particular vserver with the resources allocated to that particular vserver; and

providing a virtual server context structure including information pertaining to a security domain of the virtual server.

By way of background, Wesinger discloses a web server that appears as multiple virtual hosts stored on a single physical server. Each virtual host has a separate configuration file derived from a master configuration file and a log file. (paragraph 23 & 24). Within the configuration file stored on each virtual host is an access rules database that give rules for which exterior machines can or cannot access the virtual host, and at what times the exterior machines can access or cannot access the virtual host. (paragraph 39). Machines may be specified by name, IP address, or wildcard address marks.

Applicant respectfully urges that Wesinger does not disclose Applicant's claimed novel steps of *partitioning resources of the server to establish an instance of each virtual server by allocating units of storage and network addresses of network interfaces of the server to each instance of the virtual server ... enabling controlled access to the resources using logical boundary checks and security interpretations of those resources within the server by comparing configuration information of a unit of storage requested by a particular vserver with the resources allocated to that particular vserver*. In further detail, Applicant's invention assigns each virtual server with units of storage and network addresses of network interfaces on the physical server. There is no disclosure in Wesinger of assigning network addresses or units of storage to each virtual host. Wesinger merely discloses a configuration file and a log file assigned to each virtual host.

Additionally, Applicant's claimed invention enables controlled access to the resources assigned to a particular vserver by comparing the configuration information of a particular unit of storage with the vserver requesting access. A boundary check is completed to determine if a particular unit of storage is assigned to a particular vserver by

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comparing the configuration information of a particular unit of storage with the vserver requesting access. If boundary check reveals that the vserver is not authorized to access, the request is immediately denied. However, if the request is allowed, the file system generates operations to process the request. In contrast, Wesinger discloses using an access rules database to determine which exterior machines may access the virtual host. There is no disclosure in Wesinger of determining if a virtual host can access certain storage locations within the physical server. Rather, Wesinger determines which outside machine may access the virtual host and at what times.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully urges that the Wesinger publication is legally precluded from anticipating the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 because of the absence from the Wesinger publication of Applicant's steps of *partitioning resources of the server to establish an instance of each virtual server by allocating units of storage and network addresses of network interfaces of the server to each instance of the virtual server ... enabling controlled access to the resources using logical boundary checks and security interpretations of those resources within the server by comparing configuration information of a unit of storage requested by a particular vserver with the resources allocated to that particular vserver.*

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims.

The Applicant respectfully solicits favorable action.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account

No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

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